

Dear Members of Messiah,

As we begin our time together, I thought it appropriate that I might share a bit about myself. As we serve together for the Lord in this place, it is always good to be able to share some of our stories and histories.

I was raised in Strasburg, Ohio- just south of Canton. After graduation I went to Columbus to attend Capital University and the Seminary where I followed in the footsteps of one of my grandfathers! During the summers, I was a counselor and Program Director at Camp Mowana, Mansfield.

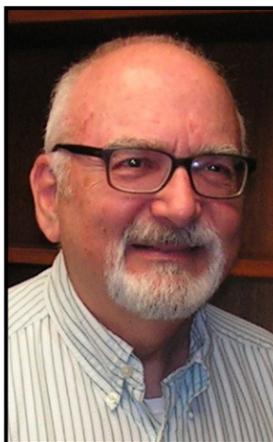
My classmates agreed that I had the best internship as I returned to the seminary with my wife Nancy. She was an elementary music teacher, church musician, and choir director. We have 3 adult children (2 boys in Rochester, NY and a daughter in Ann Arbor, MI) and three grandchildren. I have served parishes in Metamora and Pemberville (NW Ohio); Hartford City, IN, and finally 24 years in Madison. Since retirement I have served Zion, Fairport Harbor; Good Shepherd, Conneaut; and St. Paul's, Jefferson as interim. With Pastor Anderson I have also done shared preaching at Conneaut and Bethany (with Pastor Rod Funk as well!).

As I said my first Sunday with you- I do enjoy my retirement! I like to fly kites (hey, it's not just for kids!) With my wife I like to travel and play pickleball. God has been faithful to me and given me a full life, but there are still ways that I can share some of the blessings given to me. In fact, we all have been blessed in one way or another, and there are ways that we all can share our blessings through our time serving our Lord at Messiah.

I look forward to our time together. My phone and text addresses are posted. My office hours are listed. I will not be always available, but I seek to assist the church as best I can.

May God bless our "team"- pastor, council, committees, musicians, -yes, and those who say, "who, me?"- as we seek to work together as the body of Christ here at Messiah.

Pastor Steve Fisher



Stewardship Corner

By: Russell Jepson, Stewardship Chair

We've all heard the statement "What a difference a day makes", I say today "What a difference a year makes", the difference I'm referring to is the financial health of Messiah Lutheran Church.



Last year at this time we were \$2426 below projected income. This year at the same time we are \$10,400 below projected income. Not numbers we want to see whether the Church or personal income.

Inflation isn't random, effecting this product or that product, it has hit hard at everything you and I purchase and our income is like taking a large pay cut. Our disposable income at or near zero.

I and the leadership of Messiah pray that your giving to Messiah is not considered according to disposable income, but in your budget just like house, car, utility and loan payments.

There are many verses in scripture about giving. Here are three verses that give insight how God looks on giving and his response to giving.

Proverbs 3:9 Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops.

2 Corinthians 9:10 Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.

Malachi 3:10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me on this says the Lord Almighty and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

**August Messenger
Copy Deadline
Tuesday, July 26 at
noon.**

Garden Planted

The Garden Committee planted the garden in early June this year. Those involved in planting were chairperson Renee Spencer, member Rick Ranta and member Lanny Anderson.

Renee and Rick are shown here at the garden.

The committee is now hoping for timely rains and lots of sunshine.



Altar Flowers

By: Kathy Nordquest, for the Altar Guild

Due to an increase in costs at Capetina's Florist, Altar Flowers are now being provided by Flowers on the Avenue. They had the best price we could find and will deliver to the Church on Saturday mornings with no delivery charge. They will provide the flowers at \$25 per vase. Please sign up for special memories or anytime you would like to see fresh flowers on the altar. We will continue to use artificial flowers on Sundays when no one has signed up. If you only wish to sponsor one vase due to the increased costs, you can check with a friend and see if they would like to sponsor the 2nd one. The Altar Guild person of the month will contact you to see what you would like written in the bulletin. Please let them know if you will take your flowers home or if you will donate them. The sign up sheets are on the table in the entrance to the Church.

Worship at Messiah

By: Joanna Pretz-Anderson, Worship & Music chair

We're back to using a bulletin each week. It includes not just the order of service, but also lists Worship Volunteers, Council Members, Messiah Staff, and announcements.

We encourage you to take responsibility to give pertinent announcements of church happenings to the office for inclusion in the bulletin; email Arthur Polnisch, church secretary, by Thursday noon office@messiahashtabula.com



Starting on June 12th we began using ELW liturgy setting 10 (page 203). You may think you already know it – all the tunes are standard Lutheran hymn tunes. Many congregations find this is the easiest setting to learn, since the tunes are well-known.

You'll notice the "Love, Care & Concern" pads are back in the pews. This is a great way to send a message to Interim Pastor Steve Fisher about a prayer concern or to inform the office of a change in your email address, phone number, etc.

Offering plates have been placed at the front side aisles to receive your gifts as you make your way to communion. There is also one at the rear of the pews.

Council has been addressing the need for a new sound system. Watch for announcements about their progress. In the meantime if you have difficulty hearing at worship, please sit near the center front.

We Had A Meeting

Church Council called for a meeting of the Congregation on June 19. Emelia Lindberg, Property Committee chair, presented two projects for consideration.

A new roof over part of the education building and to finish the stained glass window restoration. Both passed unanimously.



July 2022

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 Holy Communion 10 Rebecca Ollikainen | 4 Lend-a-Hand 10:30 Clothing Bank Property 6 PM Finance 7 PM | 5 | 6 Nar-Anon | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Holy Communion 10 Barb Ranta | 11 Lend-a-Hand 10:30 Clothing Bank Church Council 6PM | 12 | 13 Nar-Anon Men's breakfast 8 AM | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Holy Communion 10 Hal Cooper | 18 Lend-a-Hand 10:30 Clothing Bank VBS | 19 VBS | 20 Nar-Anon VBS | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Holy Communion 10 Keith Reinker | 25 Lend-a-Hand 10:30 Clothing Bank | 26 Messenger Deadline Noon | 27 Nar-Anon | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 Holy Communion 10 Lanny Anderson | | | | | | |

Messiah Lutheran Church
615 West Prospect Road
Ashtabula, OH 44004

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Permit No. 313

Memorial Fund Contributions

Jacqueline Konter in memory of Connie Cooper and Jim Lindberg

Men of Messiah Rides

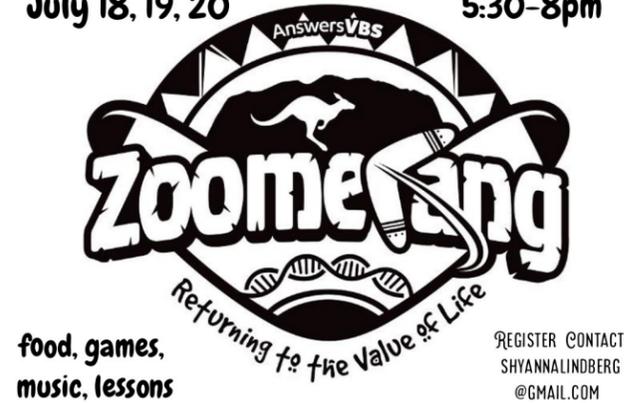
Men of Messiah would like to remind members that they are available to provide rides for anyone needing a lift. Just call the Church office (440-992-9392) and let Arthur know of your needs and he'll take it from there.

Garden Weeding and Watering

July 3-9 - Robin Wells
July 10-16 - Sue Leitert
July 17-23 - Renee Spencer
July 24-30 - Lanny Anderson
July 31-August 6 - Dawn Grimm

If something happens that you are unavailable for a certain week, just let the team know, we will cover for you.

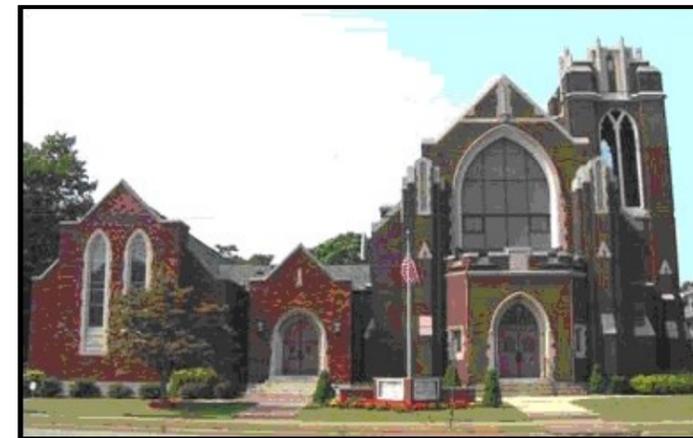
July 18, 19, 20 5:30-8pm



Hello everyone! It's that time of year for Vacation Bible School. Our theme is Zoomerang! We are looking forward to seeing you soon through dinner, music, crafts, lessons and lastly Kona Ice! Message me: shyannalindberg@gmail.com and register.

Mark Anderson Resigns

Mark Anderson has resigned his position as Council President and Jill Carle will serve for the rest of the year.



Welcome Home To Messiah



Messiah Messenger

July 2022

Worship:
Sunday 10:00 am

Sunday School:
Will Resume Later
Adult Forum:
Will Resume Later

For The Members and Friends of Messiah Lutheran Church,
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